

FLIGHT SUMMARY REPORT

Flight Number: 98-100
Calendar/Julian Date: 31 July 1998 • 212
Sensor Package: Multispectral Atmospheric Mapping
Sensor (MAMS)
Area(s) Covered: Kern River, CA

Investigator(s): Functional Sensor Flight

Aircraft #: 806

SENSOR DATA

Accession #: -----
Sensor ID #: 102
Sensor Type: MAMS
Focal Length: -----
Film Type: -----
Filtration: -----
Spectral Band: -----
f Stop: -----
Shutter Speed: -----
of Frames: -----
% Overlap: -----
Quality: Excellent
Remarks:

Airborne Science and Applications Program

The Airborne Science Branch at NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center, Edwards, California, operates two ER-2 high altitude aircraft in support of NASA earth science research. The ER-2s are used as readily deployable high altitude sensor platforms to collect remote sensing and in situ data on earth resources, celestial phenomena, atmospheric dynamics, and oceanic processes. Additionally, these aircraft are used for electronic sensor research and development and satellite investigative support.

The ER-2s are flown from various deployment sites in support of scientific research sponsored by NASA and other federal, state, university, and industry investigators. Data are collected from deployment sites in Kansas, Texas, Virginia, Florida, and Alaska. Cooperative international scientific projects have deployed the aircraft to sites in Great Britain, Australia, Chile, and Norway.

Photographic and digital imaging sensors are flown aboard the ER-2s in support of research objectives defined by the sponsoring investigators. High resolution mapping cameras and digital multispectral imaging sensors are utilized in a variety of configurations in the ER-2s' four pressurized experiment compartments. The following provides a description of the digital multispectral sensor(s) and camera(s) used for data collection during this flight.

Multispectral Atmospheric Mapping Sensor

The Multispectral Atmospheric Mapping Sensor (MAMS) is a modified Daedalus Scanner flown aboard the ER-2 aircraft. It is designed to study weather related phenomena including storm system structure, cloud-top temperatures, and upper atmosphere water vapor. The scanner retains the eight silicon-detector channels in the visible/near-infrared region found on the Daedalus Thematic Mapper Simulator, with the addition of four channels in the infrared relating to specific atmospheric features. The spectral bands are as follows:

<u>Daedalus Channel</u>	<u>Wavelength, μm</u>
1	LSBs for Channels 9-12
2	0.45 - 0.52
3	0.52 - 0.60
4	0.57 - 0.67
5	0.60 - 0.73
6	0.65 - 0.83
7	0.72 - 0.99
8	0.83 - 1.05
9	6.20 - 6.90 optional
10	6.20 - 6.90 optional
11	10.3 - 12.1
12	12.5 - 12.8

Spatial Resolution: 50 meters from 19.8 km (65,000 ft.)
Total Field of View: 85.92 degrees
IFOV: 2.5 mrad

Notes: Channels 9-12 are digitized to 10-bits; all others are 8-bit. Blackbody sources are carried for IR calibration.

The data will not be archived at EROS Data Center because this is an experimental system with low spatial resolution and unique spectral characteristics. As all scenes will be primarily cloud-covered there would be little terrestrial application for the data. Further information concerning the data can be obtained from principal investigator, Gregory S. Wilson, Atmospheric Effects Branch, George C. Marshall Space Flight Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Marshall Space Flight Center, Alabama 35812-5001.

Airborne Multi-angle Imaging SpectroRadiometer

The Multi-angle Imaging SpectroRadiometer (MISR) is a new type of instrument, designed to view the Earth with cameras pointed in 9 different directions. As the instrument flies overhead, each piece of the Earth's surface below is successively imaged by the 9 cameras comprising the MISR system, in each of 4 wavelengths (blue, green, red, and near-infrared). The Airborne MISR (AirMISR) is currently flown aboard the ER-2 to facilitate the development and test the capabilities of the satellite MISR before it is launched in orbit in 1998.

In addition to improving our understanding of scattering of sunlight in the Earth environment, MISR data can also distinguish different types of clouds, particles, and surfaces. Specifically, MISR will monitor the monthly, seasonal, and long-term trends in:

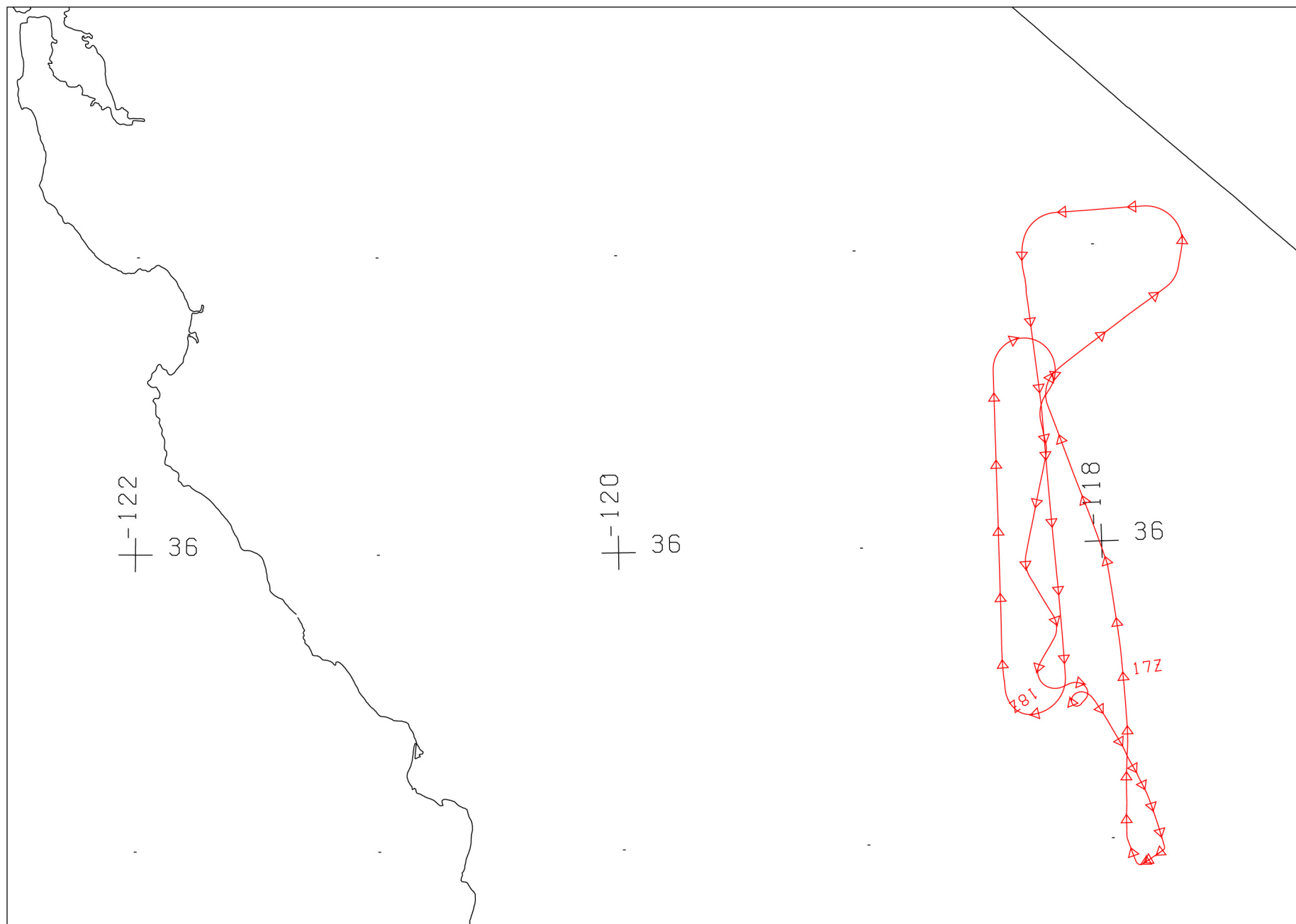
- The amount and type of atmospheric particles (aerosols), including those formed by natural sources and by human activities
- The amounts, types, and heights of clouds
- The distribution of land surface cover, including vegetation canopy structure

To accomplish its scientific objectives, the MISR instrument will measure the Earth's brightness in 4 spectral bands, at each of 9 look angles spread out in the forward and aft directions along the flight path. Spatial samples are acquired every 275 meters. Over a period of 7 minutes, a 360 km wide swath of Earth comes into view at all 9 angles. Special attention has been paid to providing highly accurate absolute and relative calibration, using on-board hardware consisting of deployable solar diffuser plates and several types of photodiodes. To complement the on-board calibration effort, a validation program of *in situ* measurements is planned, involving field instruments, one of which is the "PARABOLA III", which automatically scans the sky and ground at many angles. The aircraft camera, AirMISR will continue to operate on the ER-2 also as a complement to the orbiting MISR. Global coverage with the satellite MISR will be acquired about once in 9 days at the equator; the nominal mission lifetime is 6 years.

MISR is being built for NASA by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. MISR is one of five instruments scheduled to be launched into polar orbit aboard the first Earth Observing System spacecraft (EOS-AM1) in June 1998, as part of NASA's Mission to Planet Earth. The spacecraft will fly in a "sun-synchronous" orbit, designed so that it crosses the equator every 98 minutes, always at 10:30 a.m. local time, as the Earth rotates below.

Further information regarding MISR is available on the following web page: <http://www-misr.jpl.nasa.gov>

Information regarding ER-2 acquired photographic and digital data is available through the Aircraft Data Facility at Ames Research Center. For specific information regarding flight documentation, sensor parameters, and areas of coverage contact the Aircraft Data Facility, NASA-Ames Research Center, Mail Stop 240-6, Moffett Field, California 94035-1000 (Telephone: 650-604-6252).



FLIGHT 98-100

31 JULY 1998

A/C 806

MAMS

